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ABSTRACT

The author provides brief critiques of "Libri;" "Journal of Library History;" "FID Newsletter;" "Unesco Bulletin for Libraries;" "Bibliography, Documentation and Technology;" "International Library Review" plus Asheim, Kaser, Bone, "Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science," Simsova, White and other books and serials in the area of international library science literature. (LI 004244 through 004253 and LI 004255 through 004267 are related.) (Author/SJ)

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Academic Librarianship in the International Milieu. Manhattan, Kansas State University, 1968. 78 pp.

An interesting collection of papers which should be praised, first, for focusing its attention on only one type of library. These conference proceedings suggest a direct ratio between the paper's practicality and the amount of the writer's foreign experience. Those writers of little experience, like Buckman, write papers of glittering generalizations, noble thoughts, and obvious problems. Those writers who have been there, so to speak, like Neva White, tell it like it is.

Buchman suggests trying to understand other societies in their own terms, but he does not say why or how, or how that understanding will relate to American library principles. White suggests Afghan librarianship to be 100 years behind American librarianship and discuss the problems hindering its development. She discusses the philosophy of helping the Afghans to help themselves, and is especially useful in describing the effect of Afghanistan on foreigners.

Rudolph on South America is helpful in explaining the foreign advisor's problems, that he may be unwanted, that consultant positions pay poorly, that he may be used as a "fall guy", and that most foreign libraries have a low status. Shepherd suggests the desirability for foreigners in the USA of jobs rather than tours. Paper bound, unpretentious, unedited, practical, discusses the advisor's role in helpful fashion.

Asheim, Lester, Librarianship in Developing Nations. Urbana, University of Illinois Press, 1966. 95 pp.

The Asheim book discussed here and the Simsova book discussed below seem to be two of the premier works in comparative library science. Three Asheim lectures at Urbana contrast American and foreign librarianship, ——————→

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discuss basic problems in this relationship, and recommend American reactions to foreign situations. Within the compass of 95 pages are summarized most of the library problems seen by the rest of us in developing countries. Asheim's understanding is thorough, his prose lucid and graceful. Within its purposes, the book can hardly be criticized.

In Asheim's view, the purpose of comparative library science is to promote the useful exchange of information and ideas, a broad conception. His book illustrates comparative library science in its instructive and contrastive forms, by using information from many countries to deduce generalizations, in this case about common policies, the challenges faced and the mistakes made. Asheim does not cite his sources nor use the usual research methods to support his statements. The book is one of memory and personal impression, not one of formal data collection, analysis, and comparison.

Asheim might have been expected to face one of the perennial comparative library science questions, but did not mention it. Must a nation eager to improve its libraries always westernize them? Is there no improved and indigenous Asian or African model to follow? His evidence suggests Asian and South American librarians to be eager to leave behind the same problems. Clearly, the assumption is being made that American librarianship is the "good", and traditional Asian and South African librarianship are the "bad", an assumption made by many educated Iranian librarians, also. Much of Asian librarianship comes from 19th century French or British librarianship or from behavioral patterns learned in other fields. He recognizes an essential difference between American library emphasis on reader service and traditional foreign library emphasis on the primacy of the book. I know of no other model to follow, except that of socialist country, nor does Asheim mention one. The problem seems to be, then, will Asian and South American society tolerate such a western approach to this occupational field?

The description of the social causes of library differences shows good understanding, but omits one important ingredient. To change librarianship fundamentally, the social philosophy of the entire nation must be changed, must be westernized, something beyond our power to accomplish. Nevertheless, in many of these countries, society is already changing and slowly approaching a time when it will be "ready" for modern libraries. Of course, the presence of western libraries, such as those of the USIS and British Council may be thought to be a "westernizing" influence on these societies, but this is debatable. In Iran, strong interest exists in western ideas and in making local institutions more nearly western in purposes and policies even though many accommodations must be made to the oriental social and government system in which they exist. It was in this context that the ideas of Tebroc and Irandoc were introduced, received encouragement and support. In such a context, too, American librarianship could be taught with minor modifications, whereas that may have been impossible in certain other countries, e.g., Syria. Without a permissive and educated upper class and a rising middle class, both eager for westernizing, such an approach would have been impossible.

The greatest omission, leading to criticism in the Eastern Librarian, March 1969, pp.67-8, is that of solutions to the problems described. Asheim gives no explanation of the practical steps needed to make the adjustments necessary to adapt western librarianship for use in developing countries. For this reason, the book seems to be aimed only at an American audience. In fact, a clear and unfortunate bias is shown in favor of American philosophy and librarianship. A more international viewpoint, one which contrasted the librarianship of American, European, Canadian, Australian and New Zealand libraries with that of the developing nations would have been made it more acceptable outside the USA, though the socialist countries would still have been ignored. As a matter of fact, socialist librarianship may make a better model for semi-socialized developing countries than Anglo-American librarianship anyhow. Further, since Asheim carefully

explains foreign library situations, it seems clear that the lectures were aimed at an American audience unsophisticated in this subject area. Its provincial bias notwithstanding, several answers to this criticism can be given: (a) there was never any intention of including solutions in the lectures, (b) Asheim quotes Swank on the American library principles which seem exportable, and (c) the third lecture, particularly, suggests approaches and principles which should be lead to improved solutions.

Though the Iranian picture is not quite as bad as that given in Asheim's description of the "classic" situation, still, there is much of Iran here. One is tempted to supplement Asheim's parade of backwardnesses by citing several Iranian examples, but let one suffice. When he last worked here, Nasser Sharify was head of the National Library, Tehran, where he tried to introduce several modern ideas, among them Persian language printed catalog cards. Nowadays, when you visit that library, you will be shown his printed catalog cards, being used as scratch cards!

Avicena, Paul, Bibliographic Services Throughout the World, 1960-64. Paris, UNESCO, 1969. 232 pp.

This is one of a series of UNESCO bibliographic handbooks. It was compiled by soliciting information from the UNESCO national commissions and by copying materials from the pages of the periodical, Bibliography, Documentation, Terminology. The list of persons who supplied information contains generally reliable sources, or seems to, but the frequent listings of ministries of foreign affairs raises the question of their breadth of knowledge. The short questionnaire is reproduced and covers the existance of a national bibliography, library cooperation, special national bibliographies, legal deposit, bibliographic education, and archives. The information is concisely given, in an average of two and a half pages per country. Twenty countries supplied no information. Regrettably delayed, the book was five years out of date when published. The Iranian entry contains some misleading and obsolete information. The information on certain other nations is briefer than it should be. This is a worthwhile global compendium and will be used for bibliographic selection throughout the world. Should be updated immediately.

Bakewell, K. G. B., Industrial Libraries Throughout the World. London, Pergamon Press, 1969. 160 pp.

One of the short Pergamon international monograph series on library and information science. In only 160 pages of text, Bakewell surveys the world's industrial libraries. Obviously, the treatment is superficial and not comparative and can introduce them only, somewhat like a directory written in complete sentences. His coverage is sparse, also, all of the Arab states being disposed of in two pages and Iran being omitted completely. A few countries were misplaced, Saudi Arabia in Africa, for instance.

With some success, Bakewell ties the importance of industrial libraries to the importance of raising productivity, adds a brief chapter on international library organizations, and a longer chapter on managing the industrial library. Both extra chapters seem extraneous. The book is satisfactory for what it attempts, a superficial journalistic survey, but much more detailed coverage is needed.

Bibliography, Documentation, Terminology. Paris, UNESCO. No editor listed. 50 pages per monthly issue.

A news bulletin covering international and bibliographic services and activities throughout the entire world. Published in English, French, Spanish and Russian editions. Keeps Avicenna current. Each issue covers recent UNESCO activities, the bibliographic affairs of other international organizations, and recent projects and bibliographic publications from half a dozen countries. Information sent in by national libraries and other local correspondants. To some extent, the publication includes the fields of archives and the mass media, also. No papers, book reviews, or pictures. The bibliographer's delight! Very useful in serial and bibliography selection in all subject fields.

Bone, Larry, Library Education: An International Survey. Urbana, University of Illinois Graduate School of Library Science, 1968. 388 pp.

This volume reproduces the papers read at the 1967 Illinois conference on library education. It contains five sections: history, and present status of education for librarianship in parts

of Europe and the Americas, organization and operation of library schools, curriculum principles and practices, teaching methods, and research and advanced study. Regrettably, there is no index, but appendixes list national library associations and conference attendees. Several well known library educators were present to discuss developments in their own countries, e.g., Downs, Saunders, Kirkgaard, Carnovsky, and Lancour.

This is an interesting and curious volume. Something of a potpourri. It complements the Amsterdam and the Bonn volumes described below. Papers or parts of papers touch on 25 or more countries without anyone being covered thoroughly. Asian, African and Oceanian library schools are almost completely omitted. Two thirds of the speakers are North Americans, half from the USA. More than half of the twenty papers include the USA.

Apparently, several papers were taken with little editing from rather informal, unwritten talks in which the first person pronoun is used frequently. The most useful papers are those by Sharify, McMullen, Helmquist, and I. Lieberman. The only papers concerned directly with comparative library education are those by Sharify, Hjelinguist, Harrison, McMullen, and Lancour. Most of the papers are too short to provide more than a cursory survey of the subject, e.g., Downs, Floren.

This is a compendium of practices and "good advice". Its papers represent a selective "present state of the art", practical and pragmatic, rather than attempting "the objective establishment of useful principles for the field based on the comparison of research on a single topic in several countries". They seldom make either "useful comparisons among countries" or "research analyses involving the drawing of useful generalizations." In fact, only elementary literature search and questionnaire methods were used, and often not even that much research was done. The volume falls far short of providing a first class comparative or even international library education survey or manual.

[Bonn, George, Library Education and Training in Developing Countries. Honolulu, East-West Center Press, 1966. 200 pp.

These are the proceddings of a carefully organized Honolulu conference on library education in East Asian countries. Several papers open the conference by describing certain aspects of American library education as it relates to foreign librarians. Gitler's survey of American contributions to library development abroad is cursory but interesting. Asian programs follow in Japan, Korea, Pakistan, the Phillippines, and Taiwan, with projection of future needs in these countries. While detailed for these five countries, no others are included, except very briefly. Therefore, even East Asia is not covered comprehensively. A series of conclusions with much relevance to other Asian countries ends the compilation.

The book's most valuable part is the collection of Asian curricula and program descriptions. They complement and supplement for the curricula of five East Asian countries the Amsterdam collection described below. Most East Asian curricula seem to resemble those of North America more than those of Europe or India, the former giving greater emphasis to bibliography and the latter to cataloging and classification. Such well known library educators as Asheim, Berninghausen, Bonn, Floren, Gitler, Harlow, Moid and Sawamoto participated. Regrettably, this is the kind of conference which should be more useful than it turns out to be. In detailing faults and needs, it was quite successful, but in securing improvements, it was ineffective, partly because organization for follow-up was lacking. Already somewhat dated, of course.

Campbell, H. C., Metropolitan Public Library Planning Throughout the World. London, Pergamon Press, 1967. 168 pp.

The introduction makes clear that this is a descriptive rather than comparative or evaluative volume. It is a short international topical study. The book does gather in one place, however, information which would be hard to locate elsewhere. A good deal of background information is provided about the cities and and governments and their planning activities. Many principles and generalizations are expressed, though some of the tours end abruptly without conclusions.

Several dozen cities and all continents are covered. Something of a breathless dash around the world. Indexed, it should be useful in a general way to public library planners.

The Eastern Librarian. Dacca, East Pakistan Library Association. M. S. Khan, Editor. 60 pages per quarterly issue.

This English language journal attempts to serve the field of area library science. It attempts to cover all of Asia and has local editors of some repute from several Asian countries plus the USA, Germany and Australia. Essentially, however, it is an East Pakistan library journal with some papers relating to West Pakistan, also. A typical issue contains five papers, 5-20 pages in length. Three or four of them concern Pakistan problems, and one or two describe libraries or activities in other Asian, European or North American countries. Iran has been represented several times in the past three years. An editorial opens each issue, advertisements are included, and short sections of association and personal news and author biographies close it.

Coverage of Asian or even East Pakistan library matters is sketchy at best. Most of the papers are descriptive or horatory though occasionally they are practical. There seems to be a perpetual shortage of papers and the journal seems to have had little success in improving East Pakistan librarianship. On the other hand, it is a praiseworthy effort from such a depressed library group.

Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science. New York, Marcel Dekker, Inc., Allen Kent and Harold Lancour, Editors. Volumes I and II, 1969 and 1970.

A monumental work reflecting credit on its distinguished editors and making a major contribution to international librarianship. Will be used for many years. The advisory board includes a dozen outstanding non-Americans, and most of its Americans have good familiarity with librarianship in other countries. The preface states the editors' global concept of coverage and emphasis. Instructions to contributors stress the international or non-national character of the encyclopedia. For these high ideals,

the editors and the contributors deserve fulsome praise. Most encyclopedic library literature does not even attempt such sophistication or coverage.

Alas, in many cases, both the editors and the contributors seem to have ignored their fine instructions. Non-Americans make up only one sixth of the contributors to the first two volumes, and most of their articles simply deal with the libraries in their own countries. Even the otherwise outstanding internationalist, Nasser Sharify, had trouble with his instructions. In a work of this pretension, the article "Aden, Libraries in" is a disgrace, as is the article by William Nasri on Albanian Libraries. The authors should have collected data through correspondence with librarians in these countries and through their diplomatic representatives. On the other hand, Afghanistan by Sharify is probably the best paper available on the topic. An article like that on Accrediting of Library Education deals with the USA and ignores all efforts elsewhere. The article on "Agricultural Libraries and Collections" ignores all agricultural libraries in West Asia, and "Africa, Libraries in" is restricted to a brief history. Many articles are more strongly bibliographic in emphasis than the topic would seem to justify. In other articles, there seems to be either a lack of editing or else a plethora of citations to University of Pittsburgh faculty members' papers.

In the second volume, Libraries in Bolivia, the Bodlian Library and the National Libraries in Australia and Austria seem to have been given detailed treatment. Libraries in Bermuda, Barbados, and Belgium receive quite full descriptions, also. However, foreign coverage is poor in the Bank libraries article, despite the existance of some of the world's leading bank libraries outside the U.S.A. Cursory inspection of volumes III and IV suggests no improvement, the article on libraries in central Asia being an example. We can only hope for greather global coverage and emphasis in later volumes.

FID News Bulletin. The Hague, The Netherlands, Federation International de Documentation. No editor listed. 8 pages per monthly issue.

This is a newsletter covering FID documentation activities and those of other agencies around the world, also. Each issue contains a calendar of upcoming world meetings, varied and annotated lists of publications, FID office news, and conference summaries. It contains advertisements, but no book reviews, editorials or pictures, and only occasional articles. Very concise and practical. Unfortunately, published in English only. The socialist and third worlds are represented to the extent that they contribute publications and meetings to the world lists. This newsletter represents international institutional library science and should be very useful in all countries.

Focus on International and Comparative Librarianship. Julia Hodgson, Editor. London, The Library Association International and Comparative Librarianship Group. 18 pages per quarterly issue.

A title which has just completed volume one, though its first issue was published in 1967. Printed by offset, this bulletin discusses certain British activities in international and comparative library science, particularly those of the Library Association, and supplements its LA Record. A typical issue contains an editorial, 2-3 brief, chatty articles, a few announcements and a book review. The writers are leading Group members, some of them internationally known. There is no editorial board. Primarily of national rather than international interest, an association house organ and British news bulletin.

Gelfand, M. A., University Libraries for Developing Countries. Paris, UNESCO, 1968. 157 pp.

A small manual on small university library administration in developing countries. Aimed at government and university officials as well as librarians. Good introductory section on local obstacles to successful university library debelopment, raison d'etre, and the contributions of such a library. No attempt is made to compare policies or procedures by country, merely good examples picked here and there. With almost no exceptions,

the principles of Anglo-American university library administration are recommended for developing countries. Certain adaptations are suggested in practice, but even there, little change is required. Western librarianship is eastern librarianship is western librarianship.

A very satisfactory manual. Could serve as a short text in any country where English is widely known. Perhaps the university administrator who knows little about academic libraries and reads English slowly will find this book hard to complete, however. Illustrations from many countries. Bibliographies but no index. The book should be translated into several languages and published in hard bound form.

Inspel. International Journal of Special Libraries. Washington, D. C., International Federation of Library Associations, Special Libraries Section. Karl Baer, Editor. 45 pages per quarterly issue.

The offset bulletin of world special libraries. A typical issue contains papers from 4-6 countries, with the USA and Germany pre-dominating, and the English and German languages most often represented. The third world and its languages are poorly represented. Most papers are 3-20 pages long and describe a specific library or a new library development. Section meetings are reported, and a section of Section news concludes each issue. Contains no other news. A few of the contributors are well known internationalists. Of course, this bulletin does not attempt to cover world special library activities comprehensively, but instead, reflects the early and tentative nature of international special library science. Could be improved with the addition of a book review section, research paper summaries, and more papers per issue. Issue indexes in English, French, German, and Russian. Should be helpful in a general way.

International Association of Technological University Libraries Proceedings. Loughborough, U. K., University of Technology Library. R. A. Wall, Editor. 40 pages per semi-annual issue.

A bulletin of news and papers about technical university librarianship. A typical issue contains a section of association minutes and news, an editorial, bibliography, several 3-5 page descriptive papers about specific libraries followed by bibliographies and one paper with a more general approach. Usually, 4-5 countries are represented. Occasional pictures are used, particularly of the paper authors. Several of the authors are well known internationalists. Most papers originate in Europe or the USA with little attention given to ~~socialist~~ or third world countries. All papers are published in English. This bulletin is more research and automation oriented than most library serials. Contains advertisements but no book review section, news from the field, or comparative papers.

International Librarianship: Liber Amicorum in Honour of G. A. Van Riemsdijk. Part III, Vol. II, Aspects of International Librarianship: Education and Training for Librarianship. Amsterdam, School of Librarianship and Documentation, 1969. 300 pp.

An unpretentious, spiral-bound and mimeographed publication devoted exclusively to 3-12 page descriptions of library education programs. Covers 25 countries with some of them having several papers. Socialist, capitalist, and third world countries represented. Europe and the USA are covered relatively well, but Africa and Asia are covered poorly, and South America and Oceania are omitted completely. Naturally, papers vary in completeness, but many cover a single school. Articles in English predominate, but the French, Spanish, Russian, and German languages are represented, also. Regrettably, the book contains no table of contents, preface, or index. I know of nothing comparable to it in print.

Among the interesting things to be learned here: (a) the spread of library science doctoral programs around the world -- India, Pakistan, Turkey, the United Arab Republic, Rumania, the Netherlands, the U. K., the U.S. S. R., Hungary, Czechoslovakia and the USA having them; (b) Information science

programs have now become so widespread that certain schools in Lithuania, The Netherlands, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, U. K., and the USA have information science in their names; (c) several European and African school enrollments must be among the world's largest, e. g., Moscow with 5100 students, Leningrad with 3200, Copehagen with 600, the University of South Africa with 500, and Wales with 450 and separate campus, classroom and dormitory buildings; and finally (d) the extent of Copenhagen's library school quarters, surely among the largest, 14000 square meters of space.

International Association of Agricultural Librarians and Documentalists Quarterly Bulletin. Bennekom, The Netherlands, the Association. Govert de Bruyn, Editor. 70 pages per quarterly issue.

An English language bulletin of strongly bibliographic interest in agricultural fields. Features lists of new serials, bibliographies and few short book reviews. Subject arrangement with UDC classification numbers given. Also, meeting and publication announcements, short papers and personal news, exchange information, research paper summaries. Back cover contains membership and association publication sales information. No comparative library science, pictures or research paper summaries. Needs more book reviews, also. Each volume contains material from 8-10 countries.. Should be very useful to all agricultural librarians.

International Library Review. London, Academic Press. George Chandler, Editor. 150 pages per quarterly issue.

Started in January, 1969, already this is the leading international and comparative library journal, though it is limited to English language papers. The Honorary Editor is a leading figure in world library affairs. The Honorary Advisory Board of Contributing Consultants may be over-titled, but nevertheless seems generally distinguished and presumably will contribute papers. Only one four

fourth of them are from the socialist and third worlds, however. Normally, the content is divided between topical and area specialists with a paper from an international organization and an editorial introduction to the material received.

Each issue seen thus far has been a mixed bag. Apparently a preference exists for short pieces, 5-15 pages each, a few rather dated. Continental and subject matter balances are well maintained. The issues are strong in association and conference reports, and much stronger in foreign and international institutional than in comparative library science. The journal needs a critical book review section, the editorial comments not being a satisfactory substitute. So far, weak in research reports, pictures and "think" pieces, also.

Jackson, Miles.W., Comparative and International Librarianship: Essays on Themes and Problems. Westport, Conn., Greenwood Publishing Corporation, 1970, 307 pp.

A survey of library problems arranged by type of library. All four major library types and all continents are included. There are twelve chapters of which three deal exclusively with the USA and four with North America. The best of them seem to be those of Kaldor on the USSR with an interesting section on Lenin, Shorr on Western Australia, Whitenack and Shepherd on the USA, Wilkinson on Canada, and Dean on West Africa. Several of the others, such as Gropp on Latin America, Collison on Europe, and Harvey on West Asia, seem thin and attempt to cover a 50-100 page subject with a 15-20 page paper. Shores on comparative librarianship waxes eloquent but fails to contribute usefully. Only a few of the papers, Wilkinson, Dean, Shepherd, and Harvey partially, seem to be based on any systematic and first hand survey, though certain other authors have used secondary sources quite extensively. Several of the papers attempt to give conclusions and summary pictures, rather than facts and examples. No research studies are included.

Some readers may feel the book to be improperly titled, since it contains only Shores' eloquence, Gropp's and Harvey's superficial treatments on comparative library science, and no papers on international institutional library science.

Three of the papers, Dean, Kaldor, and Panofsky, can be called foreign librarianship. Half of the authors write simply about conditions in their own countries. Each paper provides a bibliography, and the book contains a detailed index.

With the exception of the Gropp, Collison, Shores, and Harvey papers, the general average in this compilation is higher than might be expected. It seems to be a useful volume, well planned and executed, one of the better works in the field, perhaps even worth buying.

Journal of Library History. Tallahassee, Florida State University Library School. Harold Goldstein, Editor. 95 pages per quarterly issue.

This Journal attempts to cover three subject areas: library history, library philosophy, and comparative library science. Apparently, it covers the first area much better than the other two. In the third area, its primary thrust is Miles Jackson's regular column usually spotlighting a foreign -- rather than comparative or international institutional -- library activity or publication. In addition, certain of the Journal's articles have an international library history emphasis, and half of the book reviews have some kind of international aspect. An international advisory board of distinction is listed, though its contribution is unclear. In this case, however, a majority of them represent the socialist and third worlds, remarkable. The Journal needs a larger book review section, more pictures, and wider international coverage.

Kaser, David, Stone, Walter, and Byrd, Cecil. Library Development in Eight Asian Countries. Metuchen, N. J., Scarecrow Press, 1969, 243 pp.

A survey of the 1966 and 1967 library situation in Korea, Indonesia, Laos, the Phillippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam, about 30 pages per country. Each chapter follows a set pattern in describing the national setting, school, academic, public, and special libraries, library schools and associations, national and foreign libraries, and concluding with a summary of recommendations for development and a bibliography current to 1967. Probably the book provides a good short introduction to

the library picture in each country. It describes situations honestly and indicates development steps. But its title is somewhat misleading since the book deals only with East and Southeast Asia.

The authors are well known internationalists who demonstrate considerable skill in learning about a nation's libraries and their development needs quickly. The book provides some raw data for comparative library science, but contains only facts and recommendations, no attempt being made to compare or contrast the countries. The chapters are written on a rather remote level of generalization like a series of short AID reports and consequently are rather dry and contain few personal names. The photo offset printing from a typescript is legible if not particularly attractive.

Kaungamo, E. E. "The East Africa Library Movement and Its Problems" East Africa Journal III (June, 1969), pp. 36-9.

An American-educated East African discusses the requirements for a comprehensive national library system and the obstacles to it. He stresses the importance of comparative library studies to learn the successes and failures of other countries. The importance of locating library agencies in progressive government ministries is suggested, also. The ideal would be a separate ministry for libraries. Most library agencies seem to be placed under the Ministry of Culture or the Ministry of Education. The importance of enlightened planning is mentioned in connection with legislation, but the fear is expressed that the foreign library expert's departure will lead to a slowing down of the library movement. Since no one western country's library education program is best suited for underdeveloped countries, Kaungamno recommends synthesizing programs from several countries. He concludes with the importance of developing accurate and comprehensive national bibliographies and of working through cooperative local efforts. A useful paper.

Leads: A Fact Sheet. Chicago, Illinois, USA, American Library Association International Relations Round Table. Helen Wessels, Editor. 4-16 pages per quarterly issue.

An offset bulletin of round table and international library news. Wholly American in sponsorship, editorial staff and mostly American in content. Contains little news of American activities in international library science, and no editorials, papers, pictures, book reviews, or bibliographies. Does not even cover ALA international activities. Occasional news reports from other countries, otherwise wholly an ~~internal~~ "house" organ communicating internal business to round table members. Corresponds to the British Focus on International and Comparative Librarianship. Of little international interest.

Libraries in International Development. A monthly newsletter issued by the International Relations Office, American Library Association, ~~Washington, D. C.~~ Chicago, Illinois, USA. No editor listed. 4-6 pages per monthly issue.

Non-American and international library news, emphasizing American interest. Regular international calendar of library conferences. Often a short feature article. Sometimes contains helpful lists. Foreign librarians visiting the U. S. and American librarians working abroad. The ~~who-is-where-and-doing-what~~ type of thing. Book notes. Unpretentious and useful.

Library Progress: An International Review on Development in the Field of Libraries. Tulburg, The Netherlands. Hans Krol, Editor. 40 pages per quarterly issue.

A new spiral bound and mimeographed journal with attractive red or purple cover and double spaced pages. Editors from fifteen countries, five West European, two socialist, and nine from the third world, an interesting balance. No well known names among them. A typical issue contains several short articles plus fifteen or more news releases. Includes material in the English, French, Dutch and German languages, and an occasional contribution from a well known internationalist. Each issue contains contributions from 8-10 countries, though the journal needs better coverage of the African, South American, Oceanian, and socialist countries. Needs better proof reading, also.

Typical quality of the descriptive papers is mediocre or poor. This journal should seek more substantial papers and develop a critical book review section.

Library Quarterly. Chicago, University of Chicago Press, Howard Winger, Editor. 60 pages per issue.

The Library Quarterly has been eminently respectable for many years. Each issue contains several 10-25 page papers, numerous book reviews, a list of books received, biographies of the contributors, advertisements, and the identification of the cover printers mark. With the decline of Chicago social research a generation ago, the Quarterly shifted increasingly to historical research. Now it plays a subject role in the library periodical world somewhat like that of the Journal of Library History, though on a higher level of significance. The book review section and the annual conference issue are its best features, and both are important, though the reviews vary greatly in quality. International library science is one of the Library Quarterly's secondary interests. Some of its international papers are merely descriptions of a foreign library situation, others are histories, few involve other research methods. No non-Americans serve on the editorial board.

The Library World: the Independent Monthly Journal for Librarians. London, W. H. Smith and Son, Ltd. K. C. Harrison, Editor. 30 pages per monthly issue.

In spite of a pretentions title, this journal is only secondarily international. Basically, it is a British public library news bulletin, somewhat resembling the American Library Journal with cover news photo, but having relatively few book reviews and advertisements. Strong emphasis on library architecture and publicity plus editorials, record reviews, and library science book reviews. The Journal's international aspect is enhanced and promoted by its editor who is well known in this field. Most issues contain at least one article on a foreign library development, regular contact being maintained with continental European affairs. Choses a Miss Library World each year, though she is always British, and conducts an annual publicity contest with an overseas

division. Distributed widely abroad.

Libri, International Library Review and IFLA Communications. Copenhagen, Munksgaard. Preben Kirkegaard, Editor. 70 pages per quarterly issue.

A well established and prestigious international quarterly with a section of the best International Federation of Library Association conference papers. The editor is a leading European internationalist. The twenty five associate editors represent many countries, but only two are from Asia, none from Africa below Cairo. Many well known contributors who write in English, French, and German. A typical issue contains half a dozen papers varying considerably in length, the IFLA section, a few book reviews and bibliographies. The papers cover the entire world but emphasize European affairs. Some representation of research material. There is little of comparative, much of foreign, occasionally some of international institutional library science here. Needs to enlarge its critical book review section and its representation of research material.

Lohrer, Alice, "School Libraries in Iran and the Near East," American Library Association Bulletin LXIII (October, 1969), pp. 1284-9.

A non-article. Badly titled. Included in this bibliography for its negative value and my own subject familiarity. The article seems to have been written hurriedly, without opportunity to check information, most of which dates from the early or middle 1960s. Deals primarily with Iran and the social and educational changes it has experienced in the past two decades, no specific libraries being mentioned from any other area country. Only two pages of six deal with Iranian school libraries and then primarily in Khuzestan Province. Librarianship is immersed in cultural and educational history, on the face of it praiseworthy, but immersed so far as to be very dimly seen. Incidently, Miss Lohrer, a leading internationalist, suggests many western library ideas to be useable in this area with only sight modifications.

In addition to the criticisms given above, this paper omits most of the important information available on its Iranian topic, e. g.,
a. At least 2000 Iranian school libraries exist, not the scattering suggested.

b. At least six full-time professional school librarians work in Iran, including one Iranian, whereas the article suggests none to work here.
c. The past work of the Ministry of Education Department of Publications and Libraries and of the Iranian Director of School Libraries are omitted.
d. The school library work of the three Fulbright school librarians is omitted.
e. The school librarianship contributions of the five year old Department of Library Science, University of Tehran, are omitted.
f. The development of the Tabriz and Tehran undergraduate library education programs, potentially useful to school libraries, is omitted.
g. The existance of at least five Tehran school libraries meeting Miss Lohrer's quality standards, one of them Iranian, is omitted, and
h. Foreign school library usefulness for emulation is omitted.

Further,

a. The paper suggests no Iranian school library progress to have been made, certainly an erroneous impression.
b. Lebanon has no degree program in library education.
c. Mrs. Farangis Omid deserves to have her first name included instead of being only partially identified, and
d. The Near East is more properly identified with the area near the Mediteranean, whereas Iran is located in the Middle East or else in West Asia.

Methods of Information in Medicine; Journal of Methodology in Medical Research, Information and Documentation. No editor given. Stuttgart, F. K. Schuttover Verlag. 80 pages per quarterly issue.

A bilingual journal, English and German, with an abstract of each paper in both languages. About half of the papers come from each language as well. The editorial board is 50% American, 30% German and 20% other West European. Several of its members are well known internationalists in medicine or information science, but none are from the second or third worlds. Each issue contains notes, announcements, and 8-10 papers averaging 3-12 pages in length, often accompanied by tables and illustrations. Generally the papers report experiments or research in coding and mechanizing medical and hospital records and literature. The appropriate UDC number proceedes each paper, and a bibliography concludes it. No comparative studies, in spite of the obvious opportunity presented. The journal contains advertisements and book reviews, also, mostly in German, and reproduces the contents pages of other journals in the field.

Printed on glossy paper. One of the best organized and most respectable international library serials. Deserves a fine reputation in a specialized field.

Ranganathan, S. R., et al., Free Book Service for All: an International Survey. Bombay, Asia Publishing House, 1968. 464 pp.

A cursory, indexed survey of the world-wide public library development. For each country, the following headings are used: social forces, promotion agency, library legislation, library education, finance, and achievement. Much of the information seems to be at least a decade old, and therefore, to be misleading. Many countries are said to have no library legislation which, in fact, probably possess some sort of legislation. Emphasis is placed on history rather than present condition, on generalities rather than facts. About one third of the book concentrates on India, leaving 270 pages for 136 countries. All of the data have been collected by students and staff members at the Documentation Research and Training Centre in Bangalore. Apparently, they leaned heavily on local embassies, encyclopedias and other secondary sources for information, without checking, though this is not made clear. Much more useful for India than for other countries.

Simsova, S. and McKee, M., A Handbook of Comparative Librarianship. London, Clive Bingly, 1970. 412 pp.

Primarily, this book is an extensive bibliography which covers more than 100 countries in 350 pages. Full citations are given, except for the authors' first names. Where the bibliography is incomplete, basic sources are listed from which most of the remaining items can be located. The bibliography contains no author or detailed subject index, and occasional errors may be found in it. Though the bibliography shows a strong preference for English, or at least Latin, language material, it should be indispensible for anyone starting to analyse a particular country's librarianship. A not-very-useful list of overseas Library Association personnel members, 1932-1968, concludes the book.

The volume is intended to serve as the textbook for a comparative library science course like that given by the authors at London's North Western Polytechnic. Its orientation is toward the library school student interested in preparing a term paper, but the instructions given in four of the chapters should be useful to any person preparing a study in this field. Very few studies have been published anywhere in the world, however, which adhere to these instructions even in general terms.

The book's first thirty pages contain three chapters on comparative library science. This is one of the few existing discussions of this topic and is valuable for that reason. The first chapter traces the development of comparative library science ably and briefly. Like the other chapters, it is very concisely written, and makes one wish for a much more extended discussion. Certain intriguing questions are answered only in the briefest form. Several definitions of the field are given and suggestions made about the definition's development. However, no clear and detailed distinction is made between international and comparative library science. As third and fourth areas of consideration, foreign and international institutional science are not mentioned.

Comparison as a scientific method and types of comparative studies are discussed in this introductory section, also. A distinction is made between the juxtaposition of national library descriptions (e.g., Kaser) and comparative library studies (e. g., White or Asheim). Unquestionably, Simsova and McKee have produced an important source which should be updated, expanded and improved at frequent intervals. UNESCO Bulletin for Libraries, Paris, UNESCO. No editor listed. 50 pages per bi-monthly issue.

Apparently, this is one of the few international library science journals published by an international organization. The Bulletin contains articles, book reviews, new publication announcements, helpful news, and exchange listings from the entire world. Papers average 5-10 pages. It is seldom critical in any way and seldom contains comparative or research papers. Several black and white photographs grace each issue. The Bulletin prints more news of UN-sponsored library projects and of international, as opposed to national, library activities than any other journal. Each issue contains a strong representation of papers and news from the socialist and third worlds. Four editions are published: French, English, Spanish and Russian. In the extent to which it uses modern periodical standards, the Bulletin is the most rationalized international library journal. Essentially, this is a useful news bulletin.

White, Carl, Editor. Bases of Modern Librarianship: a Study of Library Theory and Practice in Britain, Canada, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States. London, Pergamon, 1964. 126 pp.

The volume dates from White's Turkish period and summarizes the proceedings of an Ankara conference. It was published originally in Turkish to fill the gap between valuable foreign library experience and the needs of a Turkish librarianship lacking its own useful library literature. Now, the volume is available

in English so other developing countries may educate their librarians and raise the expectations of their government leaders, also. One or two papers are reproduced from each of five countries known for their leadership in the library world. For the benefit of a Turkish audience unfamiliar with them, they describe, in brief fashion, public, academic and research librarianship in these countries. The papers are intended to be useful syntheses, and they are. The book has an index and has had sufficient popularity to require a reprint.

The most interesting paper is by White, himself, well known in international library science, and is titled, Comparative Study of Library Systems. He lists nine generalizations deduced from the volume's other papers, nine common characteristics or tendencies among the five countries. All relate to the emergence of librarianship as a profession, e. g., having an active library association, developing human resources, and having well designed library buildings. This paper represents that rarity, comparative library science. It involves the collection of data on certain library policies in five countries and their analysis to produce generalizations and principles true in these countries and probably in others, also. Though White shows neither the data in detail nor the analysis steps he carried out, the paper is an early and intelligent example of a comparative study in library science.

5.15.1971